

**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Park and Recreation Conference Room
11th Floor, City Hall
Monday, May 11, 2009
3:30 p.m.**

Present: Bryan Frye, Matt Goolsby, Andy Solter and Tom Roth

Absent: Glen Dey and John Stevens

Also Present: Robert Layton, City Manager, Doug Kupper, Director of Park and Recreation, Karen Walker, Assistant Director of Park and Recreation, Sharon Dickgrafe, Assistant City Attorney, Evelyn Turner, Accountant, Park and Recreation, Lee Ann Sack, staff and Jay Allbaugh, Bud Hentzen, citizens.

Interim President Frye called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

PUBLIC AGENDA

None.

REGULAR AGENDA

Item 1: Approval of Minutes

Motion by Goolsby, second by Solter, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to approve the Park Board meeting minutes of April 18, 2009.

Item 2A: Ryan Woodward Memorial

Jeff Woodward, 1842 White Oak Circle, Wichita, 67207, along with Scott Schneider, 9414 Sterling Court, Wichita, 67202, gave a powerpoint presentation on the Ryan Woodward Memorial. He outlined the memorial funds vision for an annual skate event held at Wichita skate parks. The event would continue to generate revenue to fund the memorial and help maintain Wichita skate parks. Attendance and sponsor participation would determine the frequency and location of these events.

Woodward also requested a memorial be installed at the Edgemoor Skate Park at the memorial funds expense. The family is requesting a bench be placed in the skate park or a plaque placed on a skating obstacle.

Woodward requested the Edgemoor Skate Park be renamed the Ryan Woodward Memorial Skate Park. His son was an avid skater and user of Wichita's skate parks. He gave significant effort to clean and maintain the park along with teaching others the importance of preserving the parks obstacles and appearance. Ryan Woodward died on February 24, 2009 in a tragic accident on his way to Edgemoor Skate Park.

Goolsby asked for more details on the event set up. Schneider and Kupper stated that it would be a joint effort with staff. The memorial would find the financial backing and provide advertising, while staff would organize the event. Frye asked about the space availability for additional obstacles at Edgemoor Skate Park. Kupper stated there was ample space for expansion. Frye inquired about other skate tournaments in our area. Woodward said the only competition in our area is through YMCA. Solter expressed his support for a skate event that would serve another segment of the city's youth and bring in visitors from outside the city. Goolsby stated his support to rename the park.

Frye asked Dickgraft about the memorial process and procedures. Dickgraft stated the city's criteria for naming a memorial: The recipient should be deceased, have made a significant contribution to the city, and be primarily responsible for the existence of the facility. The committee will take into consideration whether or not the person contributed to the well-being of the facility. Dickgraft said at least two criteria should be met. Solter asked if these requirements could be met posthumously. Dickgraft said the criterion could be interpreted that way.

Roth asked that each motion be taken separately.

On a motion by Roth, second by Goolsby, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED that staff proceed working with the Ryan Woodward Memorial Fund to establish a skate event at Wichita skate parks.

Roth asked for more clarification on what type of memorial plaque was being requested. Woodward expressed he was very open to suggestions, but thought a granite bench placed near the edge of the park would be nice for the skaters or a plaque placed within a skate element. Frye asked about funding. Woodward said the memorial would fund the purchase and placement of the memorial.

On a motion by Goolsby, second by Roth, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED for staff to work with the family to develop a lasting memorial to be placed at Edgemoor Skate Park. The plan will be brought back to the Park Board for final approval before placement.

Roth made a motion to hold renaming the skate park for thirty days, there was no second.

On a motion by Goolsby, second by Solter, due to Ryan Woodward's significant contribution to maintaining the park and the memorial skate events continuation to further the contribution, IT WAS VOTED TO APPROVE renaming Edgemoor Skate Park the Ryan Woodward Memorial Skate Park. Frye, Goolsby, Solter to approve, Roth oppose.

Staff will proceed to place this item on City Council Agenda in June.

Item 2B: Ogden Addition Water Line Easement

Kris Rose, Baughman Company, 315 Ellis, Wichita, 67211, presented the request for water line easement for Ogden Addition. The easement would cross approximately twenty (20) feet of Swanson Park. Handouts were provided for the Park Board. Title of the requested easement is in the name of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Solter asked if giving the easement would change property ownership or usage. Dickgraft stated it would not. Frye asked why this particular place was chosen for the easement. Rose explained that

existing lines and fire hydrants made this the most economical choice. Kupper stated staff had examined the request, and found no reason not to approve.

On a motion by Frye, second by Goolsby, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the water line easement as shown on the handout and agenda for Ogden Addition.

Robert Layton, City Manager, introduced himself to the Park Board. He gave his appreciation for the board members hard work and dedication to Park and Recreation for the City of Wichita. He stated his continued support for the work being done and his desire to enhance Park Board efforts in the coming years.

Layton excused himself, and left the meeting.

Item 2C: Program Partnership at McAdams

Mike Tyson, Sr., Wichita Juvenile Probation Officer, along with David Gilkey presented a proposal for program partnership with Park and Recreation at McAdams Recreation Center. Handouts were provided for the Park Board. Rescue Zone is comprised of citizens joined with the Wichita Gang Coalition, Wichita Police Department, African American Coalition and Urban League. The program has non-profit status and provides free activities for age 9-15 at-risk youth. Referrals have already been received from Youthville, Wichita Police Department, and local school districts. It is modeled after a program in Oklahoma City, OK.

The program would offer counseling, cognitive thinking, martial arts, and other related activities of interest to the targeted youth three days a week. Days are flexible, but Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. are being requested. The program is seeking a memorandum of understanding with the McAdams facility for year round use as soon as the agreement can be obtained.

Dickgrafe asked about KDHE requirements. Tyson stated it has been determined that KDHE does not apply to their program. Kupper stated the summer activities already scheduled at McAdams would take precedence and KDHE rules apply to those programs. There would need to be a time distance between programs.

Solter asked about the staffing needs of the program. Tyson stated he would have volunteers at a ratio of 1 adult for every 5 students. The volunteers would be trained through Go Zone. McAdams would need to have at least one staff present. Solter was familiar with the Oklahoma City program and gave his support. Solter stated it was essential for security to be addressed. Goolsby asked about any rental charges. Kupper stated that if the Oklahoma City model is followed, McAdams would be provided free of charge until the program became self sufficient. At such time, a rental agreement would be negotiated. Goolsby asked about the duration of the MOU. Kupper suggested the agreement continue for 6 months to 1 year with a re-negotiation at the end of that time.

On a motion by Solter, second by Frye, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED for staff to work with Dickgrafe to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Rescue Zone. The MOU will be brought back to Park Board when established and for review on a one (1) year contractual agreement.

Item 3: 2009 Park Board Goals

2009 Park Board Goals established at the April 18, 2009 Park Board Retreat were reviewed. Frye suggested that Item four (4) be changed to read; Plan new Board orientation in conjunction with Park Board Fall Retreat after new members have been selected.

On a motion by Frye, second by Solter, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the 2009 Park Board Goals with the revision on item four (4).

Item 4: Review of Pending Issues

None.

Item 5: Updates from the Director and Acting President

Construction has begun at Chapin Park, building Wichita's first Dog Park.

CIP is still under process.

Vietnam Community Memorial in Veteran's Park is on the City Council agenda for May 12, 2009.

Item 6: Issues on the Horizon

Walker notified the Park Board that a kick off meeting for Playful City Commission is scheduled for May 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m. in the Park and Recreation Conference room. She is still seeking members to join the commission. Park Board Members suggested names of potential commission members.

Frye suggested the Park Board seek more direction for establishing memorial dedications. It was agreed that a solid foundation should be ascertained to formalize the criteria for memorial requests.

Item 7: Adjourn.

There being no other business, Frye adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:20 p.m.

Bryan Frye, Interim President

Lee Ann Sack, Recording Secretary

